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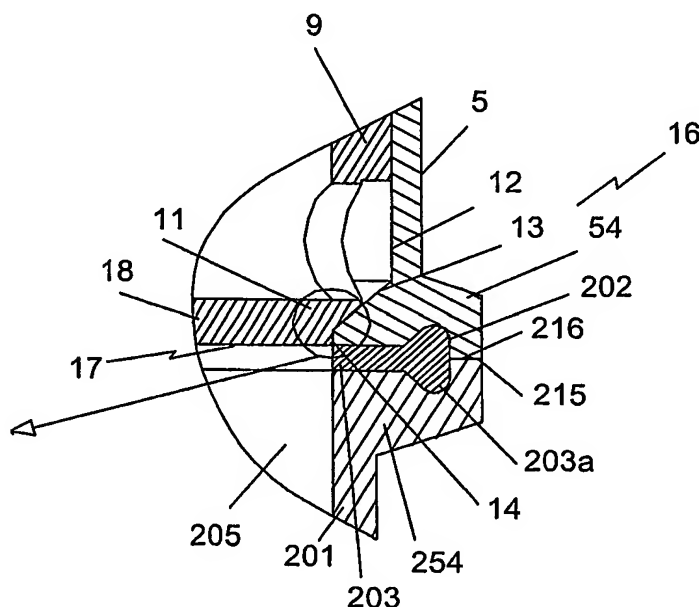
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(54) Title: A VALVE



(57) Abstract: The invention provides a valve (1) for sterile transfer of fluids. The valve (1) comprises a housing (5) having first and second open ends (2, 3) and a passageway (4) extending between the ends (2, 3). The first end (2) has a flange (54) for coupling the housing (5) about an opening (205) of an external conduit (201) and a seal blocking an open area of the first end (2). The seal is placed in register with the opening (205) of the external conduit (201). The valve (1) has a piston (9) movably disposed within the housing (5) so as to interrupt the seal and to permit fluid to pass along the passageway (4). A mating surface (215) of the flange (54) and the seal form a sterilisable surface. The seal is formed between a plastic plug (18) movable by the piston (9) and a sharp plastics rim (15) which encompasses the open area of a first end (16) of the housing (5).



— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

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